

multiple leadership positions on a district level as Cabinet Secretary, 16-B Public Relations Co-Chair, member of 16-B State Sight Committee, member of 16-B Katzenbach Committee, and member of Women's Development & Participation. She became a Certified Guiding Lion in 2008, participated in the reorganization of the Jackson Lions, and deservingly won Lion of the Year in 2001–2002. Furthermore, District Governor Palmer has represented the club at eight State Conventions, nine Charity Balls and was awarded later the Melvin Jones Fellow by the Oceanport Lions Club.

Madam Speaker, I would once more like to thank District Governor Joyce Palmer for her outstanding life achievements and dedication to her community. She has truly inspired so many people with her community leadership and commitment to providing vision for those who are unable to see.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION
OF SENATE AMENDMENTS TO
H.R. 4899, SUPPLEMENTAL AP-
PROPRIATIONS ACT, 2010

SPEECH OF

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 1, 2010

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to state how I will vote on the war in Afghanistan and why.

Today Congress considers whether to continue funding operations in Afghanistan, and as we do, we must scrutinize the policy, the price being paid, and the outcomes for our national security. This is a deeply profound examination and its outcome will decide life or death for some of our troops.

It's hard to believe that the eighteen year olds who enlist today to fight and die in Afghanistan were in fourth grade when the World Trade Center and Pentagon were attacked in 2001. Now it is 2010. This conflict is now the longest war in our nation's history and it has been accompanied by tragic loss of American lives and those of innocent civilians.

The history of Afghanistan is instructive. It is called the graveyard of empires for a reason. No one since Ghengis Khan has been able to hold the country—not Alexander the Great, not the Persians, not the Ottomans, not the British, not the Russians. It's said that the definition of insanity is doing the same thing over and over again and expecting different results. We should learn from the examples of those who preceded us in Afghanistan.

President Obama told the troops that the mission must be definable and it must be winnable. I believe it is neither.

We are losing more and more precious lives—102 in June alone. And every month security has not improved after \$300 billion in military spending and more than 1,000 American lives lost.

We have a corrupt partner with the Karzai regime and when the Afghan people see the U.S. supporting their government, they believe we have taken one side in their own civil war. No counter insurgency effort has succeeded

when the partner is corrupt. If the Afghans don't want us there, and do not wish to protect their own towns and villages, no amount of armies and firepower can change this dynamic.

I applaud the work our troops have done in disrupting Al Qaeda, and the risks they have taken to prevent terrorist attacks here at home. According to the CIA Director, Al Qaeda is down to 50 to 100 operatives in Afghanistan. We have achieved our goals, and we should leave before our continued presence unites the other insurgent groups in the region against us.

I have tremendous respect for the men and women—civilian and military—who are risking their lives every day in Afghanistan. I have met them, and I am impressed by their selfless dedication to the mission and belief in the cause.

The President's strategy is not succeeding, and rather than ask Americans to put their lives on the line for another eighteen months for what has become an impossible task, I will vote for Congressman MCGOVERN's amendment to require a withdrawal plan by April 2011 and end this war.

TYLER SALEN

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 13, 2010

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Tyler Salen who has received the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award. Tyler Salen is a 10th grader at Ralston Valley High School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Tyler Salen is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations once again to Tyler Salen for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character to all his future accomplishments.

IN RECOGNITION OF MATRIARCH
ELEANOR B. HOLMES 90TH
BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION "A
WOMAN OF STRENGTH AND
FAITH"

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 13, 2010

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, throughout our history, the vision and determination of women have strengthened and transformed America. Change can only come to our nation by those strong women whose contributions shape the history of our country. Women con-

tinue this legacy of leadership as professionals, public officials, leaders in their homes, as well as churches and other community organizations. They continuously provide guidance and care to their loved ones and strengthen America's families and communities.

We have a fine example of a strong woman, Matriarch Eleanor B. Holmes, who has been a dedicated servant of the Church of New Hope Ministries for over 40 years. Over those forty years, Eleanor has served in various roles such as: International Women's Council, 21 Years as the Local Missionary President, Usher Board member, Sunday School Teacher, Mother Board member, Missionary State Chaplain, and Chairperson of the South Carolina State Missionary Banner Committee.

Born June 28, 1920, in Mayesville, South Carolina to Rosa (Smith) Bowens and Hugh Bowens. Eleanor's ancestry traces back to her grandparents Reverend David E. Smith & Rosa Smith, both were born in 1860 into slavery. As a daughter of the South and descendant of Slavery, Eleanor Holmes was on the front line for civil rights and against Jim Crow. She fought for causes true to her faith and community by creating programs, like "Feed A Child Program (Friendship Apartments, Sumter, SC)," and establishing the New Hope Church Day Care Center.

As a child, Eleanor walked from Shaw Cross Road, Mayesville, South Carolina to Salterstown, South Carolina. Reminded by the many years of walking several miles a day to attend Elementary and High School, she launched community school bus service so children of Sumter would not have to endure what she had to endure as a child growing up in the South. In 1947, Eleanor married William N. Holmes, a World War II Veteran, and from that union came eight children, thirteen grandchildren, and 17 great grandchildren.

Madam Speaker, so often unrecognized and unrewarded, we have an outstanding individual, a real American hero, Eleanor Holmes, who has contributed greatly to the lifeblood of our nation and her beloved South Carolina. Please join me in recognizing Matriarch Eleanor B. Holmes on the occasion of her 90th Birthday, and her undaunted service to her community of Sumter, South Carolina.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL
DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 13, 2010

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Madam Speaker, today our national debt is \$13,194,523,014,378.23.

On January 6th, 2009, the start of the 111th Congress, the national debt was \$10,638,425,746,293.80.

This means the national debt has increased by \$2,556,097,268,084.43 so far this Congress.

This debt and its interest payments we are passing to our children and all future Americans.